

Bulletin Insert for SHEEP Sunday
Sustaining Hope for Educational Expenses in the Philippines
February 12, 2023

After a wonderful visit in 2016 from our Mission Partners in the Northwest Luzon Conference of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, the Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ established the SHEEP Fund (Sharing Hope for Educational Expenses in the Philippines) to help them with educational programs for children and for adults preparing for ministry. We recently received reports from them about how these funds have helped, and we rejoice that they have found ways to faithfully use our gifts as we had intended.

On Sunday, February 12, we are planning to receive a special offering in support of the SHEEP Fund. Your church should receive mailing labels (for envelopes that we hope will be distributed to you) as well as a litany of celebration that we hope you will share in your churches either before or on February 12. Any help that you can give to support our efforts will be deeply appreciated.

Your gifts are making a big difference, so thank you for taking the time and effort to celebrate “SHEEP Fund Sunday” on February 12. May God bless you abundantly as you share in this amazing opportunity for ministry!

Leader: The churches of the Penn West Conference are partners with the churches of the Northwest Luzon Conference of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines.

People: We share in each other’s ministries.

L: This partnership reflects the second great commandment given by Jesus.

P: We are called to love our neighbor.

L: Let us remember our partner churches as they experience natural disasters and political threats.

P: We remember them in our prayers and support.

L: We thank God for our SHEEP Fund. May it indeed Sustain Hope for Educational Expenses in the Philippines. May it help children, that they may begin their lives with a love of learning. And may it help adults who are preparing to serve in ministry in United Church of Christ in the Philippines congregations.

P: We pray for the work that these gifts will accomplish.

L: Let us pray.

P: Dear God, bless our ministry partners in the United Church of Christ in the Philippines. May our gifts in support of their work be blessed in your sight. All this we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.